

IN THE HOSPITAL YOU CAN STILL VOTE

ILLINOIS
DEPOSITORY

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



Many registered voters are hospitalized on Election Day and are uncertain as to the proper procedures to follow in order to vote. This brochure outlines the correct voting procedures to follow for those voters who are hospitalized.

If hospitalized NOT MORE than five days before the election:

1. Obtain an “Application for Absentee Ballot by Physically Incapacitated Elector.” The application can be obtained from your election authority (county clerk or board of election commissioners, depending on where you are registered to vote).
2. You must complete the application and your physician must complete and sign the “Certificate of Attending Physician” section of the application.
3. After the form is completed and signed by you and your physician, a registered voter from your precinct or your relative can then hand deliver the application to the election authority's office.
4. After signing an affidavit, the precinct voter or your relative may personally hand deliver the absentee ballot to you in the hospital.
5. When you receive the ballot, vote the ballot in secret and complete the certifications on the absentee ballot return envelope.
6. After depositing your voted ballot in the return envelope and securely sealing the envelope, give the envelope to the precinct voter or to your relative who must deliver it to the election authority in sufficient time for the ballot to be delivered to the proper polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Remember that only those persons who are admitted to a hospital NOT MORE than 5 days before an election are entitled to personal delivery of an absentee ballot.

If you were hospitalized more than five days before the election, you may vote by regular absentee ballot using the following procedure:

1. Obtain an Application for Absent Voter's Ballot.
2. Complete and sign the application. Then mail it to your election authority. **IT MUST BE RECEIVED BY YOUR ELECTION AUTHORITY NO LATER THAN FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION.**
3. Your absentee ballot will be mailed to you at the hospital. When you receive your ballot, vote the ballot in secret and complete the certifications on the certification envelope.
4. After placing your voted ballot in the return envelope and securely sealing the envelope, immediately mail your ballot back to the election authority's office. If it is more convenient, your ballot may be delivered in person, by your spouse, parent, child, brother, sister, or by a company licensed as a qualified motor carrier. You must give an authorization form to the person making the delivery. Be aware that if your ballot arrives too late (after Elections Day), it will not be counted.

VOTER ASSISTANCE

Assistance is the actual casting of votes for a voter in accordance with the voter's wishes. Assistance can be given by a friend or relative, but cannot be given by an officer or agent of the voter's employer or the voter's union. A candidate whose name appears on the ballot is also prohibited from assisting a physically incapacitated absentee voter unless the candidate is the spouse, parent, child, brother, or sister of the incapacitated absentee voter. This would prohibit precinct committeemen from giving assistance in a primary election. If assistance is given, the name and address of the person giving assistance must be provided on the certification envelope.

For additional information about voting while being hospitalized, contact your local county clerk of board of election commissioner's office.





H O S P I T A L



The primary goal of the State Board of Elections is to help bring about greater understanding and participation in the electoral process.

For more information on election laws and procedures, write or call the State Board of Elections.



State Board of Elections
1020 South Spring Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704
217/782-4141
TDD 217/782-1518

100 West Randolph, Suite 14-100
Chicago, Illinois 60601
312/814-6440
TDD 312/814-6431

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